

N^o 2.

30th March 1864

My dear Old Friend.

This evening as I was preparing to go out, between 7 & 8 O'Clock improvisedly having J. G. Men that I had an unfinished letter lying by me and which I had intended to dispatch by the pillar-post late at night - I was vexed at receiving a second letter anticipating what ought to have ~~undoubtedly~~ been preceded it. However the promptitude of the answer to your last will be evidence if it were required that I had not forgotten you - I am mortified to find that a whole quarter of a year has elapsed since you wrote I hope & fancy you must be under a mistake - It is evident that you must live in a state of seclusion even from your nearest kin - For in your first letter you hint at an uncertainty whether I might not be still abroad which -

Robert Procter or Gurney could have
satisfied you was not the case

You were right - Gilchrist was
under an obligation to me, for my
good nature - which exposed me to ridicule
And from no one I should have expected
more than ~~on~~ yourself who I recollect
are intolerant of tolerance of my shieft
I have not forgotten almost any of my
poems on your part of my displeasure
at my avowing pleasure at some of Harris
poems The American Medium - How
Harris is inferior to Blake who is the
chief of the spiritual poems - The second
Vol. has some exquisite songs more like
those of Shakespeare than any I have ever
seen Yet the present publishers of Blake
are hardly civil to me for my declaring
that I thought B. mad an unhappy
expression - but it was Wordsworth who
used it coupled with an avowal of great

interest in the poems -

I admire the genius of Blake
and am laughed at by the realists
had disbelieve his sanity and
scolded by the Editor

It's impote

I have been detained so long
at W. Hook that I must close
abruptly

With sincere regard

Very truly your friend

H. C. Robinson

J. Payne Collier Esq

11

(11/11)